

REMARKS

Claims 28-33, rejected under § 103, have been cancelled. Applicants hereby affirm the election, without traverse, to proceed with claims 28 - 33 (Group III).

Submitted herewith are new claims which Applicants believe define patentable subject matter. Some of the new claims correspond roughly to now-cancelled claims as follows:

New Claim	Old Claim
34	28
35	new
36	new
37	new
38	new
39	new
40	29
41	30
42	31
43	32
44	33

§ 103 Rejection

Claims 28-32, rejected under § 103 based on Rajala (U.S. 5,643,396) in view of Heindel (U.S. 5,3423,647) have been cancelled.

New independent claim 34 recites the limitations that:

- the machine is for making a screen combination for a shale shaker (See Specification, e.g., p. 3, line 6; p. 9, line 7; p. 10, line 15)
- the shale shaker including vibratory apparatus for vibrating the screen assembly to facilitate screening action by the screen assembly, the screen assembly able to withstand vibratory force imparted thereto by the vibratory apparatus, the shale shaker for treating wellbore drilling fluid to separate components thereof, said fluid containing drilling fluid

with solids entrained therein (See Specification, e.g. Paragraphs 14, 15, p. 9; Paragraph 148, p. 50)

• said screening material having a plurality of holes therethrough for the passage of drilling fluid therethrough, said screening material's holes sized to prevent solids in the drilling fluid from passing therethrough (See, e.g. Figs. 10, 45, 48)

The remaining claims, by dependency from new claim 34, recite these same limitations.

Rajala has no teaching or suggestion of any of the limitations of claim 34 listed above.

Rajala has no teaching or suggestion regarding a machine to make an assembly with screening material. Rajala is directed to garments whose main purpose is to contain fluid - garments which would fail if fluid was passable through them. For example, at Col. 43 lines 29 - 31, Rajala states

"The apparatus and method described here may be used in the manufacture of articles such as diapers, training pants and adult incontinence products . . ."

See also Rajala at Col. 9, lines 33 - 36.

Rajala has no teaching or suggestion of a machine to make a screening assembly that can withstand the high forces imparted to a screen assembly in a shale shaker by the shaker's vibratory apparatus. For example, a disposable diaper made by Rajala's machine would be disintegrated in a matter of seconds if it was mounted between sides of a shale shaker's vibrating basket.

Rajala has no teaching or suggestion of a machine to make a screening assembly that has screening material that allows some desirable fluid to pass while preventing the passage of entrained solids.

Rajala has no teaching or suggestion of a machine for making a screening assembly with screening material made from stainless steel strands.

The Heindel reference does not remedy the deficiencies of Rajala. Heindel is also directed to disposable diapers and has nothing to do with a machine for making screen combinations with screening material for processing wellbore drilling fluid. Heindel has the same deficiencies noted above for the Rajala reference.

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims discussed here define nonobvious, patentable subject matter.

Claim 33

Claim 33, rejected under § 103 based on Rajala and Heindel and further in view of Sabee (U.S. 4,968,313), has been canceled. New claim 44 corresponds to now-canceled claim 33.

Applicants repeat here the discussion above of the limitations in the new independent claim and of the deficiencies of the Rajala and Heindel references. Applicants note that Sabee does not remedy the deficiencies (and has the same deficiencies) of these two other references. Sabee is also directed to disposable diapers whose purpose is not to allow fluid to pass through, but whose purpose is to prevent the passage of fluid.

Applicants respectfully submit that claim 44 defines nonobvious patentable subject matter.

New Claims 335 - 37

Each of the new dependent claims 35, 36, and 37 are patentable both for the reasons stated above and based on their specific subject matter which is neither taught nor suggested by any cited reference or by any possible combination of any cited references.

Applicants respectfully submit that new claims 35 - 37 recite patentable subject matter.

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Conclusion

OCT 03 2006

Applicants appreciate the careful and detailed Office Action. This is intended to be a complete Response to the Office Action. Early and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

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